GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2977
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2005
FOREIGN TOURS BY CMS
Dhindsa Shri Sukhdev Singh

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for Chief Ministers to seek prior permission from the Centre before proceeding on foreign tours;

(b) if so, the guidelines laid down for the purpose;

(c) whether all the Chief Ministers who went abroad during 2005 have sought Centre`s prior permission; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The guidelines issued by Cabinet Secretariat regulate the foreign visits of Chief Ministers. As per these guidelines proposals of foreign visit are processed on being cleared by Ministry of External Affairs from political angle, by the line administrative ministry concerned with the subject matter of the visit from essentiality angle and Ministry of Home Affairs, if foreign hospitality is involved. Approval of competent authority is communicated there after.

(c) & (d): Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.